



Nordic
Built Cities

Nordic Built Cities Challenge Awards

Nordic Finalists

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Nordic Innovation



Nordic Built Cities

Nordic Built Cities Challenge Awards Nordic Finalists

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Nordic Innovation's overall aim is to create added value through Nordic co-operation with the vision that Nordic countries should be a world-leading region in the area of innovation and sustainable growth.

Nordic Innovation is responsible for the design and management of the Nordic Built Cities programme, running from 2015-2017. The aim of the programme is to develop, visualise and export Nordic innovative solutions for sustainable, smart and liveable cities.

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Nordic Built Cities

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The Soul of Nørrebro

Urban challenge

Cloudburst and culture – renewal of Hans Tavsens Park and Korsgade in Nørrebro, Copenhagen.

Proposal

The site has been designed as a natural rainwater catchment basin, capable of handling 18,000 m³ of water. Excess rainwater will be redirected via Korsgade to a nearby lake and is cleansed on the way using specially designed city nature biotopes.

This climate adaptation solution entwines new hydrological, biological and social circuits in the Inner Nørrebro area, all based on the principles and processes of nature. Rainwater is viewed as a resource, creating new and attractive urban spaces that foster biological diversity, cultural

exchange and social interaction in the diverse Nørrebro community.

Team

SLA (DK), Rambøll (DK), Studio Dreiseitl (DE), Social Action (DK), Arki_lab (DK), Aydin Soei (DK), Gadeidræt (DK), and Saunders Architecture (NO)

“The Soul of Nørrebro is both an extremely site specific solution and a universal method of how cities can use city nature to deal with cloudbursts in dense inner city neighbourhoods while adding unique social, cultural and natural values to increase the life quality of its residents.”

From the project description



The Soul of Nørrebro



Eyes of Runavík

Urban challenge

The vertical challenge – how to build innovative and sustainable family homes on a steep terrain?

Proposal

Eyes of Runavík presents a modern, sustainable and aesthetically appealing building typology for steep terrain that shelters residents from the harsh weather of the Faroe Islands. Each unit consists of row houses that form a round shape, creating protected courtyards with a milder micro-climate and exploiting the contours of the site to ensure beautiful fjord views from all apartments.

Designed to make minimal impact on nature and the environment, the project utilises high quality construction techniques and sustainable building materials, with emphasis

on local resources such as basalt rock, water and geothermal heat. The project reaches zero CO₂-emissions over a 60-year lifecycle by combining passive-house technologies and geothermal heat systems.

Team

White Arkitekter (DK), White Arkitekter (SE), DIFK (NO), Rambøll (DK), JNESpace (UK)

“The Eyes of Runavik provides a new social situation for the residents of Runavik, has a minimal impact on global warming and on the natural landscape, and suggests new export opportunities based on sustainable and renewable resources.”

From the project description



Eyes of Runavík



Hygge

Urban challenge

The vertical challenge – how to build innovative and sustainable family homes on a steep terrain?

Proposal

Hygge has developed housing typologies that are conditioned by the steep construction site and seek inspiration in the Faroese building heritage.

A key feature is that the housing volumes make no direct contact with the hillside, but are placed on basalt lava gabion walls. Elevating the volumes reduces considerably the need for incision into the building site, creates comfortable outdoor environments and allows for new sustainable solutions, i.e. harvesting wind flowing underneath the buildings to power the homes. The dwellings are made from

pre-fabricated cross-laminated timber, a cost-competitive and sustainable source of construction that allows for efficient assembly at the site. All houses are ultra-low energy homes, achieving zero-emissions over their lifecycle.

Team

EM Ráðgeving (FO), Hyde + Hyde Architects (UK), Arkitekt Kristine Jensens Tegnestue (DK), Paulsson Paleo (SE), Mann Williams (UK), Holloway Partnership (UK), Earth Science Partnership (UK)

“The architecture presented is optimistic in its outlook and presents a robust, technically innovative, non-destructive, high knowledge solution for living in harmony with the steep mountain conditions.”

From the project description



Hygge



Natural Connection

Urban challenge

The vertical challenge – how to build innovative and sustainable family homes on a steep terrain?

Proposal

Natural Connection – A new Faroese vernacular proposes a low and dense neighbourhood in the steep landscapes of Runavík, merging modern urban family life with the qualities of nature.

The departure point is the Faroese tradition of placing family houses around a common patio. Every patio is framed by four houses and each module is surrounded by four gardens. These green public spaces form a continuous urban landscape with playgrounds, gardens and urban farming facilities, forging a strong sense of community. The

housing typology consists of a concrete base and foundations, adapted to the sloped terrain, and pre-fabricated cross-laminated timber volumes assembled at the site. The construction method minimises impact on the terrain and preserves the local flora.

Team

Mass Lab Scandinavia (DK), Mandaworks (SE), Map Arkitektar (FO), GEG Engineering (PT)

“The project has a social ambition of creating public life before private spaces, generating a neighbourhood with a feeling of community. This points to a new conception of sustainability, one that combines economic, social and cultural concerns.”

From the project description



Natural Connection



Evolve Kársnes

Urban challenge

Kársnes Harbour – sustainable lifeline.

Proposal

Evolve Kársnes presents a framework for evolving the Kársnes industrial harbour area into a dynamic community by building on existing infrastructure and nurturing site-specific characteristics. It focuses on improving connectivity, weaving the existing ecological assets into the emerging neighbourhood and taking an organic approach to its development.

Key components include the K-bridge, connecting four existing and emerging neighbourhoods to the centre of Reykjavík, a network of pedestrian and cycle paths, and a generous natural coastline at the northern edge of the

peninsula. A seasonal Wetlife Park will support local wildlife and play a key role in future flood mitigation strategies. Cultural and leisure activities will be developed gradually, as will the transition from a semi-functional industrial site to an attractive domestic housing area.

Team

T.ark Architects (IS), Norconsult (NO), Studio Egret West (UK)

"By drawing the natural landscape into the inhabited spaces of the area, it becomes possible to imagine a reinvention of economic drivers and the introduction of a range of industrial, leisure and domestic activities."

From the project description



Evolve Kársnes



Harbouring Life

Urban challenge

Kársnes Harbour – sustainable lifeline.

Proposal

Harbouring Life presents a Scandinavian mixed-use neighbourhood, with the prime objective to enhance the quality of life in Kársnes. The proposal is formed around a triangular pedestrian vista consisting of three axes – Nature, Culture and Play – which define various activity zones and connect the so-called urban magnets: a Centre for Sailing and Recreation; a Beach House and Spa; and a science Experimentarium.

The connection to the waterfront and preservation of nature and wildlife are prioritised, and the area's mix of housing, commerce and cultural and recreational facilities

is designed to enhance its vitality at all times. A bridge connection to Reykjavík and its university community makes Kársnes attractive to innovative research-driven businesses and visitors alike.

Team

Basalt Architects (IS), Nordic Arkitekter (NO), Mary Frances Davidson (IS), Ævar Þór Sigurðsson (IS), Efla Engineers (IS)

“The proposal is based on mixed land use. Enabling people to live, work and study in close proximity, promoting sustainable modes of transport due to shorter commuting distances between work, school and home. A multiple choice of sustainable modes of transportation will inspire a healthy lifestyle ensuring better quality of life.”

From the project description



Harbouring Life



Sólborg

Urban challenge

Kársnes Harbour – sustainable lifeline.

Proposal

Sólborg envisions a vibrant and well connected urban community in Kársnes harbour, providing a Nordic model answer to the challenge of creating affordable high quality living options for growing urban populations and encouraging smarter use of resources.

The area will be developed with emphasis on citizen involvement and local ownership. Housing will be affordable and compact in size, with many common spaces and facilities, and a large portion of the apartments will be dedicated to students, elderly, people with special needs and social housing. Inhabitants will benefit from the area's natural

beauty, easy access to the sea, and social gardens and public spaces heated by geothermal energy. Shared bicycles and electric cars, along with a tramline to Reykjavík, provide smooth connections to the surrounding areas.

Team

Milla Parkkali (FI), Saara Kantele (FI), Bryndís Hreiðarsdóttir (IS), Oula Rahkonen (FI), Taneli Heinonen (FI)

"Sólborg is built around long-term lifecycle thinking, taking into account the sustainability and smart use of resources over the whole life course of the buildings. Materials and building techniques are chosen to maximize durability and make the best of local materials and skills."

From the project description



Sólborg



Spot on Kársnes

Urban challenge

Kársnes Harbour – sustainable lifeline.

Proposal

Spot on Kársnes proposes a dense and sustainable plan for a city by the water, utilising local resources and reusing existing structures.

The proposal suggests a bridge to Reykjavík and to the nature area of Álfanes, connecting an expanded network of pedestrian paths and bike lanes in Kársnes to the capital region. It gives priority to soft and public traffic and introduces a car-free island, where innovative living and housing solutions can be tested. Furthermore, local food production, social spaces between the buildings, a cultural seafront, and a strong connection to nature, aimed

at increasing biodiversity and improving wildlife habitat, will build the foundation for a sustainable and healthy lifestyle in Kársnes.

Team

DLD – Dagny Land Design (IS), Anders Egebjerg Terp (IS), Gunnlaugur Johnson (IS), Anna Margrét Sigurðardóttir (IS), April Arkitekter (NO)

“The key principals of the project are: reuse of existing structures (roads and buildings); putting focus on the people living in and using the area; and facilitating and enhancing the experience of landscape and nature.”

From the project description



Spot on Kársnes



Co-op City

Urban challenge

The Kera Challenge by S-Group – circular economy solutions supporting Kera's transformation from an industrial area to a 20-minute neighbourhood.

Proposal

Co-op City envisions a vibrant new city neighbourhood in Kera and features communality and shared economy as key components. It suggests gradual development of the site, starting by establishing a central park that would serve as a catalyst for events and experiments that help shape the area's identity. The neighbourhood will be mixed-use and dense, walkable, and well connected to surrounding areas. Construction methods will be innovative and ecologically sound, and Kera will function as a testbed for new construction methods and material use. A network of high

quality public spaces turns the former industrial site into an attractive and liveable streetscape where urban ecosystem services can flourish.

Team

B&M Architects (FI), Forum Virium Helsinki (FI), Päivi Raivio (FI), Setlementiasunnot (FI), WSP Finland (FI), WSP Sweden (SE)

"Communality is a key component of the Co-op City. Every element in the neighbourhood has a component of communality, starting from the planning and realisation process of the public space to shared economy solutions within the neighbourhood and the housing blocks."

From the project description



Co-op City



Kera Era

Urban challenge

The Kera Challenge by S-Group – circular economy solutions supporting Kera's transformation from an industrial area to a 20-minute neighbourhood.

Proposal

Kera Era takes a holistic approach to urban planning, emphasising wellbeing and development of innovative products, services and employment opportunities. Buildings are placed next to the existing train tracks, establishing connections between the areas on each side. So does a central green axis, consisting of green spaces that attach to pedestrian and cycling routes, municipal facilities and other focal points. Kera Era operates with multiple block types and uses prominent industrial buildings as a starting point to preserve a sense of local history. It sets new

standards for localised energy and food production, featuring e.g. green facades, vertical gardening and Finland's first large-scale indoor farm.

Team

Studio Puisto Arkkitehdit (FI), Hukkatila (FI), Nomaji maise-ma-arkkitehdit (FI), Lighting Design Collective (FI), Guringo AB (SE), Boodla AB (SE), Worldperfekt (DK)

"All area types have their own character and are connected through the main axes. The block types are all designed with a specific purpose in mind, and are meant to be interchangeable in the sense of flexibility and exportability to similar areas around the Nordics."

From the project description



Kera Era



Kera Lane

Urban challenge

The Kera Challenge by S-Group – circular economy solutions supporting Kera's transformation from an industrial area to a 20-minute neighbourhood.

Proposal

Kera Lane's vision is to create a liveable, compact city area with at least 8,000 new inhabitants. The proposal takes its name from the Kera Green Lane, an eco-passage that plays a crucial role in revitalising the area, restoring its nature and creating recreational opportunities.

The project emphasises waste prevention, reuse of existing structures and recycling of material, and presents ways in which the principles of circular economy can be applied in practice. Also, Kera Lane introduces green-blue solu-

tions for managing stormwater runoff, and digital solutions that e.g. enable sharing and monitoring of CO₂-emissions and consumption of energy.

Team

Rambøll Finland Oy (FI), HAMK University of Applied Sciences (FI), Rakennustuteteollisuus ry (FI), Rudus Oy (FI), Rambøll Sweden (SE), Rambøll Denmark (DK), Stadsjord Reform Europe (SE) and Playsign (FI)

"The Kera Lane proposal gives a holistic approach to the development goals of the area. It emphasises the quality of life and nature, functionality, smartness, aesthetics, sustainability, local values and resources, scalable concepts and flexibility."

From the project description



Kera Lane



Urban Incubator

Urban challenge

The Kera Challenge by S-Group – circular economy solutions supporting Kera's transformation from an industrial area to a 20-minute neighbourhood.

Proposal

Urban Incubator's proposal is founded on three key values: Four Seasons City, i.e. creating an attractive home and living environment; Corporate Co-creation, creating new businesses and employment opportunities by providing a platform for innovation and product development, e.g. in sustainable food production; and an Inclusive process for areal evolution, engaging people living and working in Kera in participatory planning processes. These values are intended to make the project a global reference for re-creation of urban areas and a new urbanism. Kera's architec-

tural solutions aim to retrofit the old warehouses for new purposes where possible, applying an approach based on easy implementation, modularity and flexibility.

Team

LPR-arkkitehdit Oy (FI), LPR-arkkitehdit Oy (FI), Gaia Consulting Oy (FI), RSM&CO (Ragn-Sells) (SE), Regus/Kora (FI), Vyyhti Helsinki (FI), Aalto University (FI), Elomatic (FI)

"Urban incubator mirrors and rests upon the principles outlined in the Nordic Built Charter, and gives an inspiring example for refurbishment, re-use and re-creation of old industrial areas in the Nordic region and beyond."

From the project description



Urban Incubator



Bring Your Plant

Urban challenge

Sege Park – sharing for affordable and climate smart living.

Proposal

A central element of Bring your plant is Generator Street, a sustainable street model offering services that promote sustainable food, green transport, reuse and recycling, and local entrepreneurship.

The project proposes Linked Terrace Houses for Sege Park, which reduce the need for large apartments by providing common spaces and facilities for the inhabitants. Solar panels on roofs, in greenhouses and bikeways contribute to carbon-neutrality, while good insulation and natural ventilation ensure a high level of energy-efficiency. A Green Share App will support the sustainable lifestyle in

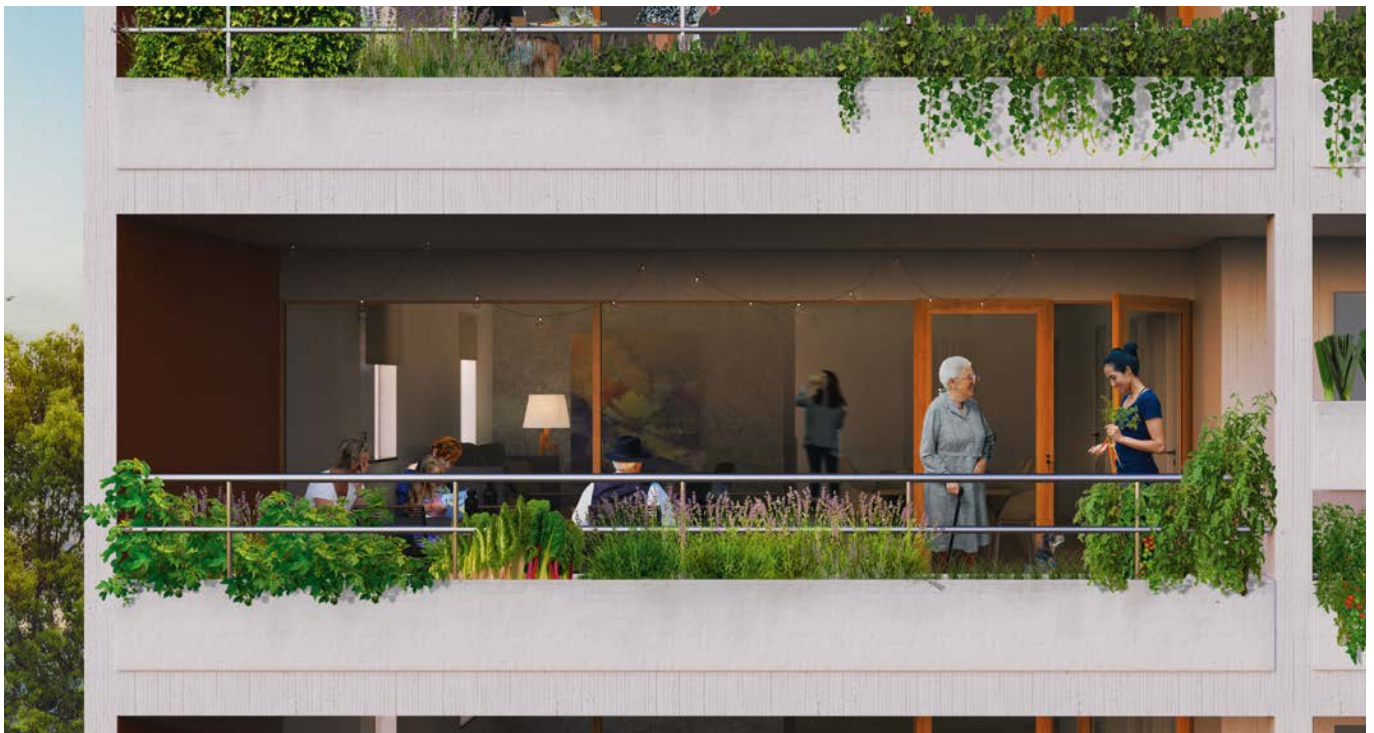
the area, e.g. by enabling sharing, providing information on public transport, and monitoring energy production and consumption.

Team

Metamorf Design (SE), Marketport Scandinavia (SE), Raumzeit GmbH (DE), Byggråd från Malmö AB (SE), Sydark Konstruera (SE), Johannes Wolf (SE), Josephine Mittag (SE), Child Perspective (SE), Urban Stories (SE), Human Habitat ApS (DK)

"The concept of apartments clustered around shared areas for eating and meeting, cooking together and helping in everyday life is made for cross-generation living and other constellations that promote social interaction, enhance the sense of belonging and reduce costs and consumption."

From the project description



Bring Your Plant



Circularity!

Urban challenge

Sege Park – sharing for affordable and climate smart living.

Proposal

Circularity! has developed design principles and solutions ranging from the landscape-scale down to detailed, flexible and affordable apartment typologies in Sege Park.

Central to the proposal are green spaces and gardens that enhance biodiversity and set the scene for social encounters between the locals. As an example, roof gardens will create new urban habitats for birds and animals, while rain gardens established in public spaces will manage and clean precipitation falling on the streets and squares. The project introduces the Sege Park Food System, which is based on urban farming in everything from small kitch-

en gardens to larger agricultural plots. Inhabitants will be encouraged to share their knowledge and grow food together, also connecting to the surrounding large-scale farming landscape in order to raise interest in local food production.

Team

Mareld Landskapsarkitekter AB (SE), Kjellgren Kaminsky Arkitekter AB (SE), Ourhouse (FI), Linnalabor (EE), Hifab AB (SE)

“The local farming co-operatives and food markets, as part of a larger food system, lead to more nutritious foods and better physical health. The proposal has a strong focus on biodiversity in landscape design.”

From the project description



Circularity!



Having Less To Live More

Urban challenge

Sege Park – sharing for affordable and climate smart living.

Proposal

Adaptability is the key to the affordable housing solution created by Having less to live more. The houses are called Flexi-houses, as they can relatively easily be shaped and adapted to each homeowner's needs at a given moment. The affordability comes from slightly reducing the floor space of each apartment to make way for shared spaces and facilities.

The proposal builds on the Nordic tradition of standardised construction, allowing a high degree of prefabrication and therefore low construction costs. The Flexi-houses are zero-energy buildings, heated by district heating. In

approximately 2025, hydrogen technology and solar cells will be implemented, bringing the annual CO₂ load down to 1,3 tons per capita per year by 2050.

Team

Sweco Architects AB (SE), Brunow & Maunula Oy (FI), Krydsrum Arkitekter (DK), Carlos Martinez Arkitektstudio (SE), Anders Olof Åsberg (SE), Sweco Architects A/S (DK), Sweco Position AB (SE), Therése Ryding (SE), Beatrice Eckord (SE)

"The innovation lies in creating a rational, repetitive and cost-efficient system that becomes a flexible framework able to contain a great mix of households and families, allowing an organically evolving mix of large and small apartments."

From the project description



Having Less To Live More



It Takes A Block

Urban challenge

Sege Park – sharing for affordable and climate smart living.

Proposal

It takes a block presents a vision of an urban environment in Sege Park, with high ambitions for sustainability and social inclusion. The team proposes a dense apartment block constructed using two types of timber modules that can be combined in different ways to create a variety of building and apartment typologies. Combined with passive-house strategies and solar power, the buildings achieve zero-emissions over their lifecycle. A key feature is that functions are moved from the private sphere into communal spaces.

The project's planning strategy starts with a lively public

square and open and accessible public spaces. Moreover, the Sege Park area will be defined by its Urban Arboretum, and the ambition to create appealing unprogrammed spaces.

Team

Kjellander & Sjöberg Arkitektkontor AB (SE) STED by og landskab (DK), BOGL ApS (DK), Atkins Sverige AB (SE), Platspilot AB (SE), David Ottosson (SE)

"It takes a block implements – and showcases – a toolbox of simple and intuitive functions and solutions that support sustainable and sharing-oriented lifestyles."

From the project description



It Takes A Block



Cycle

Urban challenge

Smart, green and urban – revitalising the transport hub at Trygve Lies plass.

Proposal

Cycle creates a dynamic, diverse and inclusive public space at Trygve Lies plass, setting the scene for a variety of seasonal activities for people of all ages and backgrounds.

The square will be divided into three zones: a social square, featuring an event space as well as areas for activities and relaxation alike; a recreational zone designed for family activities and sports; and the green mobility hub, which connects pedestrian traffic, cycling and public transport. Cycling is identified as the 'missing link' of a successful

mobility strategy for the area, which is why bike tracks, workshops, bicycle parking and storage are given a prominent place in the revitalised square. The scheme introduces several complementary strategies for sustainable energy, rainwater management and increased biodiversity.

Team

Mad Oslo AS (NO), ACT – Active City Transformation (DK), Architectopia AS (NO)

“What better way to demonstrate a commitment to sustainable urbanism than to promote cycling? The bicycle represents much that is positive about the sustainable city – it is clean, promotes good health, is inexpensive and fun.”

From the project description



Cycle



Flying Carpet

Urban challenge

Smart, green and urban – revitalising the transport hub at Trygve Lies plass.

Proposal

The revitalized square is designed around The Flying Carpet, a continuous surface that enables a free flow throughout the square and creates seamless connections between the different modes of transport – buses, bicycles and the subway. Variations in topography, material, vegetation and lighting are used to divide the square into small and attractive spaces that generate urban, economic, cultural and relational activities in all four seasons.

The proposal enhances the transition towards green mobility and brings the vegetation and biological diversity of the

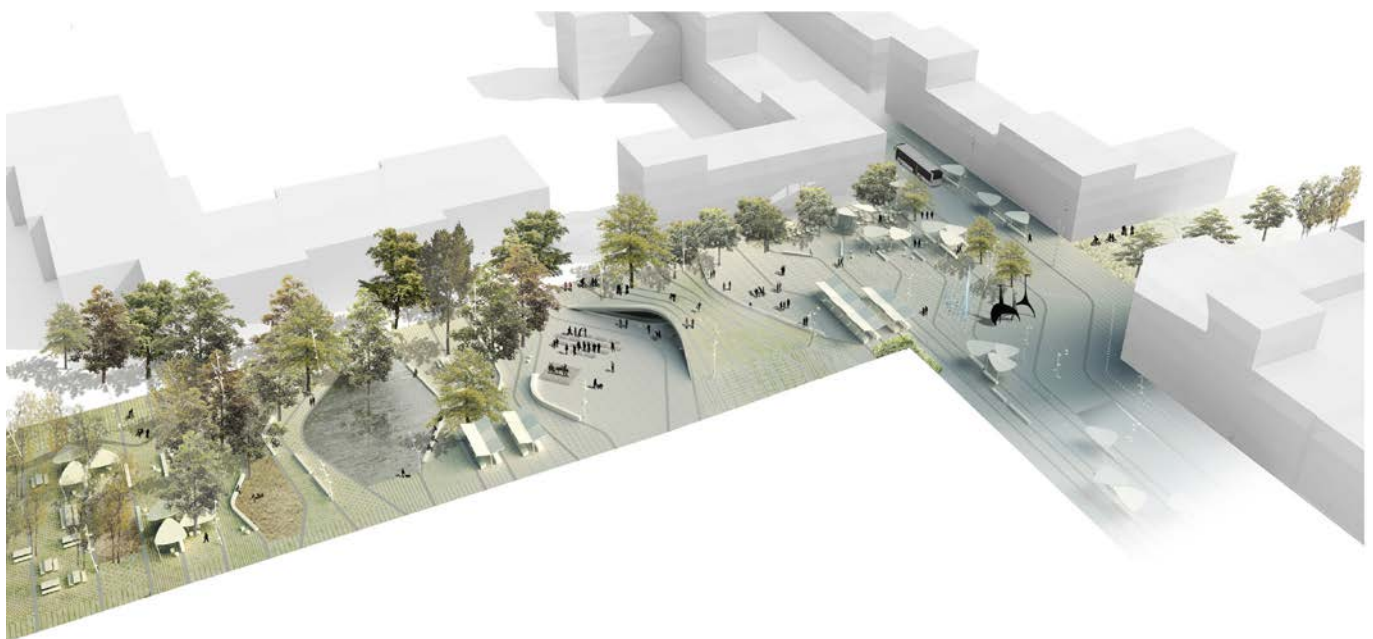
surrounding green areas into Trygve Lies plass, thus creating a diverse natural and urban landscape at the square.

Team

Mestres Wåge Arkitekter (ES), MX_SI Architectural Studio (ES), Degree of Freedom AS (NO), Granlund Consulting Oy (FI)

“The Flying Carpet offers a simple architectonic gesture that can adapt to the different conditions and fulfil the goals of the plaza with a formal solution that synthesizes the ambition of a junction where social and logistical urban space merges with landscape.”

From the project description



Flying Carpet



Keen On The Screen

Urban challenge

Smart, green and urban – revitalising the transport hub at Trygve Lies plass.

Proposal

Keen on the Screen reframes Trygve Lies plass by defining twelve activity zones and designing a playful, smart and flexible low-energy lighting scheme. The proposal introduces The Flip, a prominent structure that links the square, the underground parking, metro and bus stop. The design creates a high-quality, active urban space that enhances the connection to the city's public transport system.

The Screen is a 5 x 6,5m interactive communications tool, managed by a local super agent, which provides information to the users and features sports events, movies and

other activities. A key focus is to strengthen social connections, local identity and pride in the multi-cultural and multi-linguistic community of Furuset.

Team

Pir II Oslo AS (NO), Everyday Studio ApS (DK), Light Bureau (UK/NO)

"The new Trygve Lies square seeks to connect with Furuset's many identities, giving the inhabitants a beautiful, safe, modern and social urban space that can improve their health and well-being, their social connections and make them proud!"

From the project description



Keen On The Screen





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